

Regional Telecommunications Council
1625 Highway 150 South

Calmar, IA 52132 ☐ (563) 562-3263

Region I Telecommunications Council
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
1:00-2:30 PM

Via Zoom: <https://nicc.zoom.us/j/365531730>

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chris welcomed members to the regular Fall meeting of the Region I Telecommunications Council held via Zoom. Members in attendance and the constituency they represent were:

Adam Forsyth	Independent Colleges/Universities
Harold Jensen	Iowa Public Television
John Noel	Community College Trustees
Chris Ostwinkle	RTC Chairperson
Mike Savage	State Board of Regents
Rhonda Sheeley	Area Education Agency Board
Mari Eitel	Recording Secretary/Region I Scheduler
Duane Willhite	School Administrators of Iowa

Members Absent:

Lisa Snitker	Iowa State Education Association
Al Rissman	

Guests

Joe Tjaden	Iowa Communications Network
------------	-----------------------------

II. Approval of June 10, 2014, Minutes

MOTION BY JOHN NOEL, SECOND BY DUANE WILLHITE, TO APPROVE THE JUNE, 10, 2014 MINUTES.

III. Future Deadlines

A. RTC PLAN/BUDGET SUBMISSION for FY16 – Summer 2015

Chris explained we will now only have one report to submit for the year. For FY16 that date has yet to be determined by the Dept. of Education. Chris explained that for the spring meeting we will need to conduct a vote to approve the FY16 budget, so a quorum of members will be needed at that meeting.

Area I RTC

Vacant
IA Dept. of Education

Adam Forsyth
Independent Colleges/Universities
(563) 387-1402

Harold Jensen
IA Public Television
(563) 547-2762

John Noel
Community College Trustee
(563) 562-3263, ext. 202

Christopher Ostwinkle
RTC Chairperson
(563) 556-5110, ext. 256

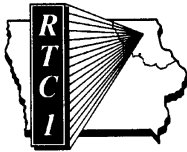
Allan Rissman
IA Assoc. of School Boards
(563) 921-2455

Michael Savage
State Board of Regents
(319) 273-7885

Rhonda Sheeley
AEA Boards
(563) 245-1480

Lisa Snitker
IA State Education Association
(563) 568-3466

Duane Willhite
School Administrators of Iowa
(563) 422-3851, ext. 5



IV. Discussion

A. Joe Tjaden

Joe reported that the ICN has presently been helping 44 schools convert over to H.323 technology. This is basically due to needed bandwidth. He explained that the ICN has been providing some codec free of charge in the process, mainly due to them not being covered by the current e-rate discounts. He expects that to be fixed before the next group of schools begin to convert.

FirstNet is another initiative the ICN is involved in. Initiated at the federal level, the law gives FirstNet the duty to build, operate and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety entities (EMS personnel). Iowa has been designated as the mid-west hub for this E911 initiative, expected to most likely be a 10-year project.

Chris discussed this week's announcement by the ICN that they will be phasing out all MPEG rooms on June 30, 2018. After this date, MPEG2 videoconferencing will no longer be offered or supported by the ICN. The ICN currently offers their Video@LightSpeed IP videoconference service as a bridge and replacement for the MPEG2 platform. According to current state code, Joe explained that this would affect schools who do not have any billable services (video, internet access, telephone) through the ICN.

Chris has supplied NICC's High School Relations Director with the names of the Region I schools which have not yet converted so that she might start having the conversation with them to consider converting before that date.

B. NICC Updates

NICC has our 8 ICN rooms converted, in addition to 9 high schools who have also converted. Mari explained that we frequently use our converted rooms for video conferencing as well.

C. Other –

Chris explained that the Dept. of Ed is now taking over payment of RTC funding. This will now be an annual payment instead of semi-annual.

Mari reported that the IDLD (Iowa Distance Learning Database) website updates are moving forward, but very slowly.

Chris suggested week of June 8 for the next meeting. He asked members to check their calendars and report back to him if they know this would not work for them.

V. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY JOHN NOEL, SECOND BY ADAM FORSYTH. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Area I RTC

Vacant
IA Dept. of Education

Adam Forsyth
Independent Colleges/Universities
(563) 387-1402

Harold Jensen
IA Public Television
(563) 547-2762

John Noel
Community College Trustee
(563) 562-3263, ext. 202

Christopher Ostwinkle
RTC Chairperson
(563) 556-5110, ext. 256

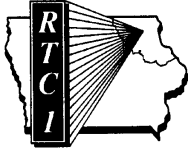
Allan Rissman
IA Assoc. of School Boards
(563) 921-2455

Michael Savage
State Board of Regents
(319) 273-7885

Rhonda Sheeley
AEA Boards
(563) 245-1480

Lisa Snitker
IA State Education Association
(563) 568-3466

Duane Willhite
School Administrators of Iowa
(563) 422-3851, ext. 5



Regional Telecommunications Council
1625 Highway 150 South

Calmar, IA 52132 □ (563) 562-3263

Area I RTC

Vacant
IA Dept. of Education

Adam Forsyth
Independent Colleges/Universities
(563) 387-1402

Harold Jensen
IA Public Television
(563) 547-2762

John Noel
Community College Trustee
(563) 562-3263, ext. 202

Christopher Ostwinkle
RTC Chairperson
(563) 556-5110, ext. 256

Allan Rissman
IA Assoc. of School Boards
(563) 921-2455

Michael Savage
State Board of Regents
(319) 273-7885

Rhonda Sheeley
AEA Boards
(563) 245-1480

Lisa Snitker
IA State Education Association
(563) 568-3466

Duane Willhite
School Administrators of Iowa
(563) 422-3851, ext. 5